GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1582
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2001
INDO-JAPAN MEET
BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the last six months in the wake of the dialogue between the Prime Ministers of India and Japan held in Delhi, any tangible steps have been taken towards resolving differences which surfaced since 1998; and

(b) if so, the details thereof with special reference to the sanctions imposed by Japan?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) & (b) Since the visit of the Japanese Prime Minister Mr. Yoshiro Mori to India in August 2000, substantial bilateral activities have taken place which include the following:

i) A high powered Economic Mission sponsored by Japan`s Ministry ofInternational Trade and Industry visited India on 29 October - 3 November 2000.
ii) Secretary, Ministry of Information Technology participated in the deliberations of `DOT Force` (Digital Opportunity Task Force) which was held at Tokyo on November 27 - 28, 2000.
iii) The second India-Japan Investment Dialogue was held in Tokyo on 7 December 2000.
iv) Two Missions sponsored by Japan External Trade Organisation visited India in December 2000 and January 2001 to explore ways of promoting bilateral investment and economic cooperation.
v) The first meeting of the India-Japan Eminent Persons` Group (EPG) was held in New Delhi on 29 - 30 January 2001.
vi) From 5 February 2001, the Government of Japan has decided to start issuing a multiple entry visa for short stay on business purposes (but not for remuneration or business operations) for Indian IT professionals.
vii) On 9 February 2001, a Memorandum of Understanding was signedbetween DOEACC, the Indian Information Technology Engineers Examination, and the Japanese Information Technology Engineers Examination, for the mutual certification of computer software skill examinations.
viii) Government of Japan has provided emergency assistance amounting to Rs.17 crores following the Gujarat earthquake.